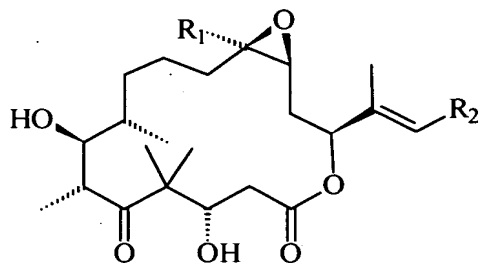


Abstract

The present invention provides a synthesis for the preparation of epothilone derivatives of formula 9



(9)

wherein R₁ is methyl, and R₂ is an unsubstituted or substituted aryl; an unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl; or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical fused to a benzene nucleus; and salts thereof, and intermediates for the synthesis of a compound of formula 9